



## CALENDAR

*All events are held at the Easton Historical Society & Museum unless otherwise noted.*

*Sunday, June 12th, open House from 1-5 p.m. featuring Eastoners in politics. Panel discussion with former State Representatives John S. Ames, III, Leon J. Lombardi, and current State Representative Claire D. Cronin at 2 p.m.*

*Tuesday, June 14th, Flag Day! Fly it proudly!*

*Saturday, June 18th, come and see the 1907 Morse Auto from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

*Sunday, June 19th, Happy Father's Day!*

*Sunday, June 26th, go to the 3rd Annual Art, Music, Food, Fun, Festival at the Governor Ames Estate, noon-6 p.m. The Society will be open as part of the event.*

*Monday, July 4th, Happy 240th Birthday USA!*

*Sunday, July 10th, Open House from 1-5 p.m. looking at summer vacationing and recreation over the years.*

*Sunday, August 14th, Open House featuring recipes from the cookbook of Anna C. Ames.*

*The Society & Museum is open most days during the summer months, and we welcome visitors. If you have family or guests coming from out of town, why not bring them for a visit? We are also available for groups and for interesting talks at your group meetings.*

## EASTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

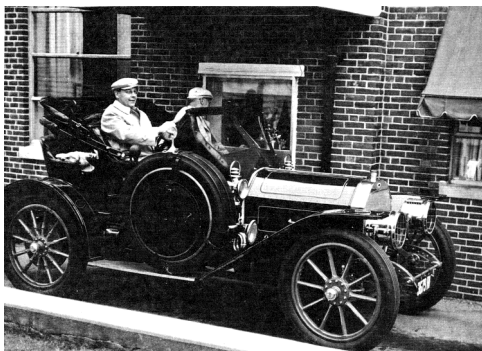
# Two Special Appearances

## State Representatives Panel Discussion

Our June 12th open house will look at Eastoners who have served in State or Federal office. The highlight of the afternoon will be a panel discussion featuring former State Representatives John S. Ames, III (1971-1976), Leon J. Lombardi (1977-1982), and current State Representative Claire D. Cronin (2013-present). They will discuss their experiences serving in the Massachusetts legislature during their respective terms in office. This special discussion will begin at 2 p.m. Political memorabilia will also be on display.

## The Morse Car is coming to Easton!

The Easton Historical Society & Museum, will host a very special visit of the 1907 Morse Car. The car, made at the Morse factory at 7 Central Street, South Easton, will be at the Society on Saturday, June 18th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This visit is made possible by the generosity of Dr. Stanley Moody. Please be sure to stop and see one of Easton's greatest treasures. You'll be glad you did!



Dr. Jay Rice Moody driving Neubert Morse, son of the inventor Alfred B. Morse, in the 1907 Morse car. Photo taken July 6, 1951, at Easton's first drive-up window at the former First National Bank of Easton, 227 Main Street.

*The mission of the Easton Historical Society is to preserve, promote and interpret the unique industrial, social, cultural, architectural and environmental history of the Town.*

## Curator's Corner - Curator / Caretaker Frank T. Meninno

### Keeping Our History Alive in the Classroom

One of the highlights of our year is the annual visits from Easton schoolchildren. Over the years a number of programs have been offered to students. At one time, 5th grade walking tours were an important part of learning local history. Today, many adults who visit fondly recall those tours. In more recent years, we have had the opportunity to work with our 2nd graders. Each year, students from Center School, Moreau Hall, and Parkview School come to learn about their town's history. They are treated to three things when they arrive: a show and tell presentation at the Society, a walking tour through the Ames Shovel Works, and a walking tour of the Veteran's Memorial Park. Other stops may include looking at the H. H. Richardson designed Oakes Ames Memorial Hall and the Ames Free Library, and F. L. Olmsted's Rockery and the original 1895 Oliver Ames High School. Ed Hands, Hazel Varella, Leon Lombardi, Nancy Deluca, Joanne England and I have made presentations or served as tour guides. The students are very inquisitive and ask excellent questions. We try to connect Easton's history to their neighborhoods when we can, and sometimes those opportunities come through the questions they ask. Over the course of the years many return to the Society and remind me that they visited with their class. I always ask them what they enjoyed most about their visit. Their responses help us to refine what we do, so we can better serve future students. You might wonder if 2nd graders are all that interested in history. They certainly are! They retain a lot of what they hear and see when they are with us. To their credit, and to the credit of the 2nd grade teachers, these students are well behaved and well prepared for their visit. At the end of the day all of us who have helped remark about how enjoyable a day it has been for us!

Our 8th grade students participate in National History Day each year. Sometimes their project contains a connection to Easton, and when possible, we encourage them to learn about that and include it in their research. Easton had another strong showing, with many students going on to State level competition. This year Easton will send five students to the National History Day finals in Maryland! They (and their projects) are Jessica Roa - Apollo 11: One Giant Leap for Peace (Individual Documentary); Olivia Pierce - The 1964-1965 World's Fair- It's Not A Small World After All (Individual Exhibit); Meg Holleran and Olivia Carroll - The Polio Epidemic of 1952: An Encounter With Death (Group Documentary); Diana Binney - An Exploration of the Discovery of Penicillin and the Exchange of Ideas Leading to the Exploration of Antibiotics (Historical Paper). We are happy to support and encourage these students and wish them a great experience. We are proud of all the students who participate, and thank the Easton schools for continuing to support this program. We wish all of them a successful trip and a great learning experience!

Also this year, we met with several Oliver Ames High School juniors who have been working on Honors Program history papers. They made several visits to the Society to talk with us and gather information on their subjects. Some of the things studied are the economic and social impacts that the Ames Shovel Works made in Easton and the career of Governor Oliver Ames. David Ames and I met with two students from Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School as well who were researching how the railroads affected the Ames Shovel Works and the Ames family. This marks the first time that we have had students from this school and we hope this will continue. Special appreciation goes to Nicole Casper, archivist at Stonehill College, for connecting these students with us.

We continually look for ways to support our students both at the local school level and in higher education. Our Educational Liaison Matt Auger does a great job keeping us informed and involved. Thank you, Matt!

The Easton Historical Society Newsletter  
is published quarterly by the Easton Historical Society.

*Officers for 2016-2017*

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## Easton Throws Now Available



**The Easton Throws are back! These very popular items were previously available through the Easton Clover Club. One of the Clover Club's many activities was to award scholarships. We will honor that tradition. All profits from the sale of these incredible throws will be used for scholarships. Volunteer Courtney Saraf is pictured above with one of the throws.**

**These high quality throws, which are all woven and not printed, are available for \$45 and can be purchased in blue, hunter green, or cranberry red. Featured on the throw are the Ames Free Library, Borderland, F. L. Ames Gate Lodge, David Ames Clock Farm at Stonehill College, Old Colony Railroad Station, Children's Museum in Easton (former North Easton Village Fire Station), 1895 Oliver Ames High School, Oakes Ames Memorial Hall, Ames Shovel Shops, Frothingham Memorial Hall, Civil War Monument, Rockery, and the Town Hall.**

## Society Member Receives Honor

One of the people honored in the new addition to the Sally Blair Ames Sports Complex at Stonehill College is Historical Society member Dick Grant. An advisor at Stonehill for forty-three years, Associate Academic Dean Dick Grant, who always put students first, and retired in 2012, has had the study area in the Complex named in his honor.

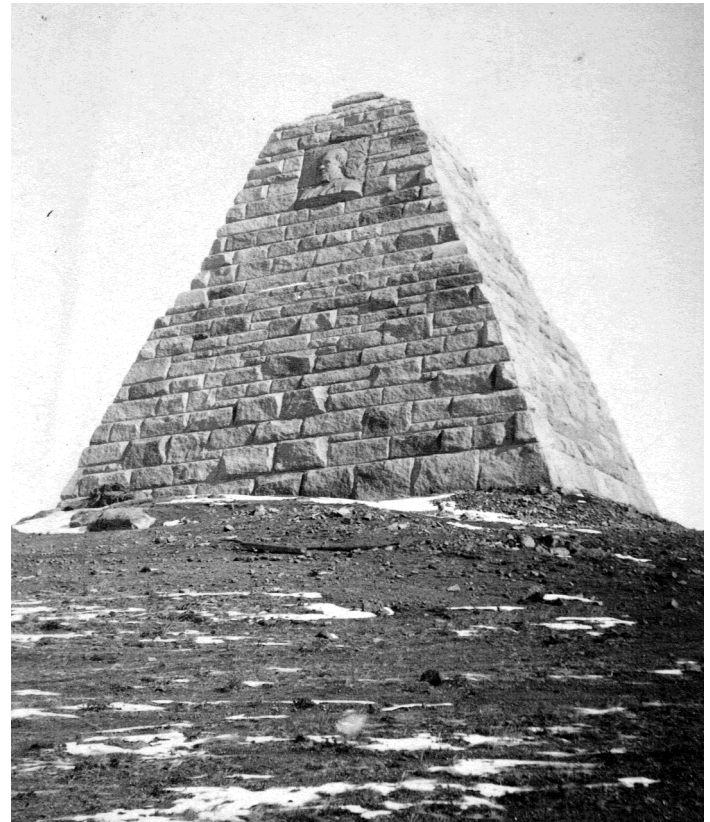
## Celebrating 25 Years of Serving Children

**Congratulations to our neighbors at  
The Children's Museum in Easton!**

**2016 marks their 25th year of  
offering exciting and imaginative  
programming to the children of  
Easton and a wide area of other  
communities.**

**They have also been wonderful  
caretakers of the historic North  
Easton Village District Fire Station.**

**Congratulations!**



Did you know that Robert Klara developed a list of the "Seven Wonders of the Modern Road" in American Road magazine? The Ames Pyramid in Wyoming is compared to the Great Pyramid of Giza.

## 3rd Annual Legacy Event

The Legacy, an art, music, food, and fun festival presented by the Trustees and the Easton Shovel Town Cultural District, takes place on June 26th from noon to 6 p.m. at the former Governor Ames Estate, 35 Oliver Street, North Easton. A juried art exhibit sponsored by the Avery Lee Williams Family Trust is not to be missed! Also included will be a variety of musical performances and things to do for all ages. Visit the Society & Museum while you are there to see photos of the Governor Oliver Ames' estate and family.

## Recent Acquisitions and Gifts

11 photos of the Old Colony Railroad Station 1969/1970, photo of St. Mary's, 3 photos of Borderland Mansion, 3 Easton postcards, 11 papers about the Ames Shovel and Tool Company, 3 misc. photos (fire, two houses), Simpson Spring booklet, from Dwight MacKerron; Jim Craig tee shirt, copies of 1980 Olympics program, ice hockey ticket, magazine cover, from Leo McEvoy; Oliver Street sign, from Heidi Harlfinger; 1920's flapper dress worn by Enis Almquist, antique slip, crossword book, Enterprise 1966 with election ads, various other items, from Priscilla Almquist-Olsen; Some Memories of OAHS Sports from 1944-1950 by Charles Christensen, from Robert Wooster; 26 cash books / journals from the J.O. Dean Company early 1900's, from Ross and Susan Henderson; two Brownie cameras, one wood folding table made at OA by his father Stanley Borgeson, from Stanley Borgeson; photos of Easton Civil Defense workers, and painting the former headquarters on Sullivan Avenue, from John and Marie Graca; WWI Victory medal and dog tags that once belonged to Richard W. Meade, Easton leather fire helmet and brass fire extinguisher, from Robert Meade with thanks to Louis Silva; OAHS 1970's gym uniform with Presidential Physical Fitness Award patch, 1975 OA linen dish towel, from Nancy Hill; OAHS Baseball memorabilia including uniforms, game balls, clippings, from Leo Duggan; photo of Ames Company Outing 1934 with names, photo of 50th anniversary banquet of the Evangelical Lutheran Church September 1950, from Stephen Sundell; The United States Navy in the World War; The Illustrated News January-June 1853; Picturesque Architectural New England with many pages of Easton buildings and landscapes; Photographic History of the Civil War in 10 volumes, from Richard Hill; 250th anniversary of Easton souvenirs and information about an early Easton restaurant, from Marilyn Ford; photographs of Easton's landscapes (1980's), nine boxes of slides of Easton from 1974 to 1980 and History of the Hobart Ames Foundation, from Ronald and Karen Danielson; 1950's sports letters and a photo of the 1956 OAHS Class D Championship football team, from Charles McMenamy; many photos of early Easton, from Arlene Robinson; many Easton photos and information, from Val LeSieur. Special thanks to Robert Vogel for helping to acquire the Kennedy Tack hammer, a photo of a Fernandes Supermarket robbery in 1958, and a bill of sale to James Perry 1783.

Financial gifts have been received from John and Sarah Ames, Cathy Adler and Dr. Ellen Dehm, Ruth Albert, Robert and Jean Alger, Priscilla Almquist-Olsen, Charlton and Eleanor Ames, Phyllis Anderson (2), Robert Babineau, James Baker, Patricia Baker, Richard and Linda Beal (2), Barbara Beech, Jonathan Belk, Robert and Jane-Pike Benton, Bert and Leona Berglund, Myrtle Blaisdell, Fairis and June Bliss, Robert Brooks, Whitney Brown, Abel Camara, Mary Camara, William and Beverly Carlson, Lewis and Evelyn Chapman, James Carlino and J. Peter Simpson, Bradford and Nancy Cohenno, David Colton, Charles and Ann Crivellaro, Celeste Dahlborg, David Devore, Dominic and Kathleen DiBattista, Anne Durgin, Easton Garden Club, Virginia Elson, Kenneth and Joanne England, Robert Farrand, Scott and Joanne Faust, Carol Ferreira, Kathleen Fox, Stephen and Joann Freitas, Rose Friedeborn (2), Ramona Gallagher and family (in memory of Robert Gallagher, Jr.), Robert and Lucy Gallagher, Mary-Rose Gargafna (in memory of her sister Catherine), Stephen and Nancy Gay, Dorothy Goveia (2), Richard Grant, Leslie Gray, John and Genevieve Habelt, Norma-Jean Hanscom, Carol Harlow, Nancy Hall, Joan Hayward, Nancy Hill, Dr. Leslie and Marcia Hirsch, Marie Holbrook, Mark Ingalls and Sheri Anderson, Robert Kane, David and Deborah Kaufman, Stanley Kavka, Carolyn Kenyon, Barry Knowlton, Helen Kyse, Richard and Margo Lawless, Shirley Boudreau Leavitt, Wayne and Marilyn Legge, Edward Lemish, Edward Leonard, Janet Linehan, Helena Luxton, Eileen Mackler, James MacPhee through Liberty Mutual (3), Kathleen Marathas, Leo and Janice McEvoy, Kenneth and Janet Michel, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Misiewicz (assist with the printing of volume seven of Reminiscences), John Moran, Larry Mowatt and Dianne Cella, William and Leslie Mullen, Earl Nichols, Donna Silva Norris, Sharon O'Leary, Duncan and Carol Oliver, Patricia M. Parrie, Plymouth County Genealogists, Inc. (in appreciation of Edmund Hands), Elizabeth Porter, Bruce and Claire Pratt, Nicolina Previti, Dr. Chet and Maureen Raymo, Robert Silva, Dr. Joel and Susan Solomon, Ronald Somerville, Arthur and Enid Stecker, Gary Sullivan, Alan Swanson, Valia Lee Thoms, Robert and Althea Thornton, John and Janice Toomey, George and Maura Tyrrell, David and Hazel Varella, Jean Visnauskis, Robert Vogel, Edward White, Janet Peterson White, Phyllis Whitty, Avery and Elizabeth Williams, Nancy Swanson Wilson, Butch and Val Wood.

Myrtle Blaisdell and Joanne Soule, and Tom and Judy Sabin gave donations to our bottle drive in memory of Ken Martin. Thank you to all who donated their bottles and cans, and to Hazel Varella, Allison Such, Ed Hands, Tom Bono, Nancy Gardner Hill, Courtney Saraf and Frank Meninno for helping at the bottle drive. Also thank you to everyone who chose the Easton Historical Society for the Globe Grant Initiative.

The Easton Historical Society & Museum very much appreciates your contributions and your support. Thank you!

## Summer Open Houses

Looking for a great way to spend some time this summer? Attend one of our open houses! Our June 12th event features Eastoners who have served in State or Federal elected offices. Judge Leon J. Lombardi has spent quite a bit of time researching these people. You will find out the identity of the mystery man pictured here! Former State Representatives John S. Ames, III, Leon J. Lombardi, and current State Representative Claire D. Cronin will hold a panel discussion at 2 p.m. about serving in the Massachusetts Legislature in several different decades.



July may be a hot month, but we'll have some cool history on the 10th. Check out some of the places that Eastoners could go to for some summer recreation, and how they may have traveled to those places.



Our August 14th open house will take a look at recipes used by Anna C. Ames, wife of Governor Oliver Ames. She was very involved in hosting dinners and celebrations for her family in Easton, and at their home in Boston. She was a very capable cook, making challenging recipes without the conveniences of a modern kitchen. We will do our best to recreate a few of these recipes for your culinary curiosity.

## Our First Olympian?

Americans are preparing to compete in this year's Summer Olympics in Brazil. As you know, there are four Olympians with an Easton connection: ice hockey goaltenders James Craig and Scott Gordon, swimmer Eric Vendt, and rower John Everett (a highly decorated world champion in his sport, 1976 Olympian, and chosen for the 1980 Summer Olympics that the USA boycotted). Did you know there was another Eastoner who is connected with the Olympics?

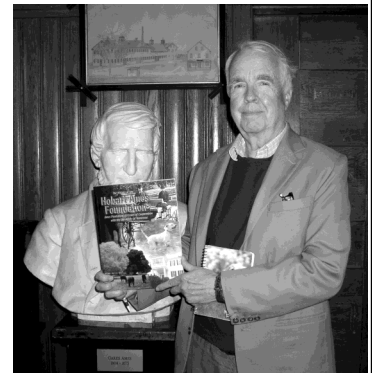
Back in the 1890's Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France (1863-1937) began a movement to bring back the Olympic Games, and through his steady urging and constant support, they were brought back in April of 1896, appropriately held in Athens, Greece. The American team consisted of a small band of male athletes and a few coaches. Many of them were members of the Boston Athletic Association. They were responsible for raising their own support. Public interest in the Olympics was more of a curiosity to most Americans, and support was slow in coming. Just before it was time for the American team to embark, they found themselves short of cash, and it looked as though the whole trip might not happen.

Society volunteer Courtney Saraf came across an article first published in a magazine a few years ago that shed some light on who came to the rescue! It appears that members of the B.A.A. and perhaps the first American Olympic Committee contacted former Massachusetts Governor Oliver Ames to help in last minute fund-raising. He made a few calls, and the last of the financial needs were met. Governor Ames died in November 1895, and this may have been his last, and perhaps greatest legacy. The American team was wildly successful and interest in the Olympics grew quickly.

More research will be done over the summer and hopefully a more complete story will appear in the next newsletter. In the mean time, let's give three cheers to our Easton Olympians and for this year's Olympic team as they compete for the top prize in all of sports—an Olympic medal!

## Very Informative and Enjoyable Open Houses

On January 10<sup>th</sup> William Ames discussed the history of the Hobart Ames Plantation in Grand Junction, Tennessee. He showed the video he produced of his visit there which documented the fascinating interior of the main house and the extraordinary wallpaper in one of the rooms. The extensive land and the location of the annual National Field Trials for bird dogs were very impressive. The role of Hobart's widow Julia in facilitating the transfer and funding was little known until Bill's presentation. Bill is at right holding a book on the Ames Plantation, which is in our collection and can be read at the Society.



On February 14<sup>th</sup> Ross Muscato shared his memories of Jim Craig growing up in Easton and his eventual successes. Jim's recent book Gold Medal Strategies was the source of some of the shared information. On display were many of the early trophies in Jim's amazing career in addition to the rocking chair he was given by the Town of Easton. Leo McEvoy, who had witnessed two of the 1980 Olympic Games, shared his memories in addition to the importance of Jim's family to the goaltender.

On March 13<sup>th</sup> cookbooks and recipes were the topic. Amazingly several Easton organizations have prepared cookbooks including women's clubs, church organizations, and the Easton Historical Society. Featured were a number of cookbooks and utensils that once belonged to Enis Lawson Almquist. Also displayed were many of the menus of early Easton restaurants. Thank you to Patricia Baker, Joanne England, Edmund Hands, and Frank Meninno for their delicious food prepared from early recipes for the March Open House on early cookbooks.

April 7<sup>th</sup> was the 17<sup>th</sup> annual "Chowder and Chatter" funded as always by Lee and Kevin Williams and was the idea of Dr. Robert Misiewicz. Last year the focus was OAHS Girls' Sports; this year Boys'. Panelists Robert "Buddy" Wooster (1940s), James Elson (1950s), Robert Clary (1960's) and Robert Wooster, Jr. (1970's) describe four decades of outstanding athletics; Edmund Hands was the effective moderator. The following Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, boys' and girls' sports were featured at the Open House. See the photo on the back cover.



May was bottle month as the Society featured an exhibit of old bottles from our collection and a private collection on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Many Easton bottles were featured dating back to the 1850's. At our Annual Meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, William Rose, OAHS Class of 1969 and President of the Little Rhody Bottle Club, gave an illustrated talk about digging for and collecting bottles. He brought many interesting examples from his own extensive collection, and shared anecdotes and tips about antique bottles. Values and how to date bottles were discussed. After the talk he took the time to answer questions and look at bottles that attendees brought.



On April 7th the Society held our 17th annual "Chowder and Chatter" evening. This tasty event, the creation of Dr. Robert F. Misiewicz, and funded by the generosity of Lee and Kevin Williams, features a delicious dinner followed by a panel discussion.

The topic of the evening was Oliver Ames High School boys' sports, and covered four decades of memories. Our featured speakers for this evening were from left to right, Robert "Buddy" Wooster (1940's), James Elson (1950's), Robert Clary (1960's) and Robert Wooster, Jr. (1970's). The panel discussion was moderated by Edmund Hands.

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